Society of Lyndon Johnson, it is a roll-back to the days when we were indeed a society of extreme wealth and people struggling to make ends meet.

We bridged a lot of that gap. We made America a place of promise for virtually 80 percent of our population after the Second World War. And this latest budget is a rollback.

So I would say to my senior friends particularly who are watching, but also to my friends and colleagues from the country who approximate my age, 50, that these cuts will take a terrible, terrible toll, a psychological toll, a financial toll, and a spiritual toll, on the Nation.

I urge my colleagues in this body to reject this budget when we vote on it on Thursday of this week. Send it back to the Committee on the Budget. Let us have hearings on it. This was rolled out at midnight, by the way. Nobody saw it. Democrats did not see this until 1 o'clock in the morning, and they rolled it out a few days later on votes.

The American people need to see what is in this budget, and when they get a load of what has happened, to students, to our seniors, to Social Security. There was a promise made by the Speaker, Mr. GINGRICH, sitting up directly behind me, that they would not touch Social Security, and they have. They have cut COLA's, and it will affect every senior in this country hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars.

They said they would not monkey with Medicare, but they have. They have. It should not be surprising that they have. The majority leader, Mr. ARMEY, when he first ran for Congress, ran against Social Security. He does not really think we ought to have it, he thinks we can devise a better system, we should get rid of it. Back in 1986, Speaker GINGRICH hedged Medicare and the payments on Medicare against additional defense spending.

There are no friends of Social Security or Medicare, or few friends, I should say, on this side of the aisle. There are some. I do not mean to impugn the motives and actions of all of the Members on the Republican side of the aisle, because there are some who do care for these. But, for the most part, they will be voting in lockstep on Thursday to implement these cuts.

So I would just like to conclude, Mr. Speaker, by urging each and every one of my colleagues to look at the Robert Pear piece in the New York Times which outlines the memo that talks about the additional cuts in Social Security, the additional deductibles on Medicare, the additional premium increases, and also to look at the AARP report with respect to the same issue.

One final comment on choice, because I know it is so important, because so many of our seniors rely on a certain doctor for their care. They have confidence in that doctor. They should know that with this new system that we are about to embark on, if it becomes law, that choice will be taken away. Or you can keep it if you want,

but you are going to have to pay an even higher premium, an even higher premium than I have talked about here on the floor this afternoon.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without prejudice to the resumption of legislative business, pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 5 p.m.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 36 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 5 p.m.

□ 1700

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. Weller] at 5 o'clock p.m.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1114

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1114.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1120

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 1120.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. HANCOCK. Mr. Speaker, for the first time in over 6 years, I was out of town on personal business last Thursday and Friday, and missed a portion of the rollcall votes on H.R. 961. I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: "No" on rollcall votes 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, and 328; and "aye" on rollcall votes 326, 327, and 329.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned subject to the call of the Chair.

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. Weller] at 6 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS TO SIT TOMORROW, TUESDAY, MAY 16, 1995, DURING 5-MINUTE RULE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on International Relations and its subcommittees be permitted to sit tomorrow while the House is meeting in the Committee of the Whole under the 5-minute rule.

It is my understanding the minority has been consulted and there is no objection to this request.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

CLEAN WATER AMENDMENTS OF 1995

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 140 and rule XXIII the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 961.

□ 1804

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 961) to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, with Mr. McInnis in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Friday, May 12, 1995, the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas [Mr. DE LA GARZA] had been disposed of, and title VIII was open at any point.

Are there any amendments to title VIII?

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BOEHLERT

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Chairman I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. BOEHLERT: Strike title VIII of the bill (page 239, line 3, through page 322, line 22) and insert the following:

TITLE VIII—WETLANDS CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

SEC. 801. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Wetlands and Watershed Management Act of 1995".

SEC. 802. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

- (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds and declares the following:
- (1) Wetlands perform a number of valuable functions needed to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters, including—
- (A) reducing pollutants (including nutrients, sediment, and toxics) from nonpoint and point sources;
- (B) storing, conveying, and purifying flood and storm waters;
- (C) reducing both bank erosion and wave and storm damage to adjacent lands and trapping sediment from upland sources;
- (D) providing habitat and food sources for a broad range of commercial and recreational fish, shellfish, and migratory wildlife species (including waterfowl and endangered species); and